

Appl. No. 09/471,153

In re Jones et al.

Reply to Office action of January 16, 2003

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (original): A vehicle axle beam and drum brake assembly, comprising:

a pneumatic brake actuator cylinder provided with an actuator rod extending therefrom;

a brake actuating shaft having a first end and a second end;

a brake actuating lever interconnecting said actuator rod and said first end of said brake actuating shaft;

an S-cam secured to said second end of said brake actuating shaft;

B1 a brake spider non-removably secured to said axle beam and adapted to support a brake assembly, said brake spider including a pivoting end support plate and an actuator support plate provided with an opening for receiving said brake actuating shaft therethrough;

a mounting sleeve having a first end and a second end, said first end of said mounting sleeve is secured to said pneumatic brake actuator cylinder and said second end of said mounting sleeve is secured to said actuator support plate of said brake spider, said brake actuating shaft rotationally supported and positioned within said mounting sleeve;

a pair of brake shoes pivotally supported on said pivoting end support plate of said brake spider, said brake shoes adapted to frictionally engage a bearing surface of a brake drum; and

a cam follower secured on each of said shoes and adapted to interfit with an outer surface of said S-cam,

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wherein when said actuator rod is extended, said brake actuating shaft and said S-cam rotate about the longitudinal axis such that said brake shoes are brought into frictional engagement with said bearing surface.

Claims 2 and 3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (original): The vehicle axle beam and drum brake assembly as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

- Both*
- a first mounting bracket attached to said first end of said mounting sleeve; and
 - a second mounting bracket attached to said second end of said mounting sleeve.

Claim 5 (original): The vehicle axle beam and drum brake assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein said first mounting bracket is fastened to said pneumatic brake actuator cylinder.

Claim 6 (original): The vehicle axle beam and drum brake assembly as defined in claim 4, wherein said second mounting bracket is fastened to said actuator support plate of said brake spider.

Claim 7 (canceled).

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Claim 8 (original): A vehicle axle beam and drum brake assembly, comprising:

a pneumatic brake actuator cylinder provided with an actuator rod extending therefrom;

a brake actuating shaft having a first end and a second end;

a brake actuating lever interconnecting said actuator rod and said first end of said brake actuating shaft;

an S-cam secured to said second end of said brake actuating shaft;

a brake spider welded to said axle beam and adapted to support a brake assembly, said brake spider including a pivoting end support plate and an actuator support plate provided with an opening for receiving said brake actuating shaft therethrough, said actuator support plate being axially offset from said pivoting end support plate;

a mounting sleeve having a first end and a second end, said first end of said mounting sleeve is secured to said pneumatic brake actuator cylinder and said second end of said mounting sleeve is secured to said actuator support plate of said brake spider, said brake actuating shaft rotationally supported and positioned within said mounting sleeve;

a first mounting bracket attached to said first end of said mounting sleeve, said first mounting bracket is fastened to said pneumatic brake actuator cylinder;

a second mounting bracket attached to said second end of said mounting sleeve, said second mounting bracket is fastened to said actuator support plate of said brake spider;

a pair of brake shoes pivotally supported on said pivoting end support plate of said brake spider, said brake shoes adapted to frictionally engage a bearing surface of a brake drum; and

a cam follower secured on each of said shoes and adapted to interfit with an outer surface

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of said S-cam,

wherein when said actuator rod is extended, said brake actuating shaft and said S-cam rotate about the longitudinal axis such that said brake shoes are brought into frictional engagement with said bearing surface.
